



1. Snow
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2. K. Kelly

DIRECTORS
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Vice President
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JOHN H. WEED

43885 SOUTH GRIMMER BOULEVARD • P.O. BOX 5110, FREMONT, CALIFORNIA 94537-5110
(510) 668-4200 • FAX (510) 770-1793 • www.acwd.org

MANAGEMENT
PAUL PIRAINO
General Manager
ROBERT SHAVER
Engineering Manager
KARL B. STINSON
Operations Manager
WILBERT LIGH
Finance and Administration Manager

February 1, 2006

FEB 09 2006

00144

Mr. Lester Snow
Director
Department of Water Resources
P.O. Box 942836
Sacramento, CA 94236-0001

Dear Director Snow,

Subject: South Delta Improvements Program

On behalf of the Alameda County Water District (ACWD), I am writing today to express our organization's support for the Department of Water Resources' (DWR) South Delta Improvements Program (SDIP), a critical water supply, water quality and environmental project designed to meet California's diverse water needs.

ACWD provides water service to the homes and businesses of over 320,000 people in the cities of Fremont, Union City, and Newark located in the southeastern San Francisco Bay Area. ACWD, as a contractor of the State Water Project, depends upon the Delta for more than half of its water supply. This supply is critical to the well being of our families and businesses, including a portion of the Silicon Valley. It is our responsibility to use this precious resource wisely through all possible best management practices.

The SDIP is part of the long term planning effort for the Sacramento-San Joaquin Delta and is a balanced way to provide for California's various interests and needs. The SDIP will improve our state's water supply reliability, water quality and the overall health of the Bay-Delta ecosystem. The program will construct seasonal tidal gates to protect fish, and improve water circulation and quality in the Delta. It will also allow State Water Project deliveries to increase modestly, but only when needed and environmentally safe to do so.

Mr. Lester Snow
Page 2
February 1, 2006

FEB 09 2006 00144

Again, ACWD supports the implementation of the proposed SDIP because it is a responsible, balanced plan that will allow us to better utilize and integrate our existing water management infrastructure in the Delta while also protecting the environment.

Thank you.

Sincerely,



Paul Piraino
General Manager

cc (by facsimile): Hon. Governor Arnold Schwarzenegger, (916) 445-4633
Mr. Ryan Brodderick, Director, CA Dept. of Fish and Game (916) 653-7387
Mr. Mike Chrisman, Secretary, CA Resources Agency, (916) 653-8102
Mr. Joe Grindstaff, Director, California Bay-Delta Authority, (916) 445-7297
Mr. Kirk Rodgers, Regional Director, Mid-Pacific Region, U.S. Bureau of Reclamation, (916) 978-5114
Mr. Dan Skopec, Deputy Cabinet Secretary, Office of the Governor, (916) 324-6358
Mr. Terry Tamminen, Cabinet Secretary, Office of the Governor, (916) 324-6358